

I object to the fact that Sinclair Broadcasting is being allowed to skirt the equal time laws during this election season by broadcasting a piece of political propaganda disguised as "news". As I understand it, Stolen Honor is a extended political piece aimed solely at discrediting Senator Kerry in an attempt to affect the election which is less than a month away.

I encourage the FCC to examine this situation and ensure that if this broadcast happens, Sinclair Broadcasting is required to air an equally biased counter piece to meet the equal airtime election rules.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.

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